DRAFT

Stonington Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, September 26, 2016 at 6:00 PM
Human Services Community Meeting Room

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Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman C. Michael Crowley and Vice-Chair Frank Prachniak
Commissioners Joe McKernan, Jennifer Norcross, Joe Ciriello, Larry Theodore & Jeff Moore
Recreation Administrator Richard Ward
Human Services Director Leanne Theodore
Stonington Community Center Representative Kelsey Haack
Stonington High School Students Jake Mueller, Max Mueller & Griffin Crowley

Chairman Michael Crowley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

I. Public's Opportunity to Address the Commission

II. Secretary's Report – Approval of minutes from May 23, 2016

There were several corrections to the May 23, 2016 meeting minutes. The first correction under agenda item number IV was to clarify the figure $105,000 as total revenue for Recreation. The second correction under agenda item number V was to clarify the Board of Selectmen's decision on Field Usage Fees and to reference the motion made by the Board of Selectmen at their April 27, 2016 meeting. There was some discussion regarding the Board of Selectmen's decision on the Field Usage Fees. The third correction under agenda item number VI was to note Mr. Kluberdanz's role in relation to the STEP Committee. The final correction, under agenda item number VII was to clarify that ACO stands for Animal Control Officer.

A motion was made by Commissioner McKernan to approve the May 23, 2016 Secretary's Report as corrected. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Frank Prachniak, all in favor, motion approved.

III. Budget Reports – FY Ending June 2016 & Month ending August 2016

a. General Fund -10173
b. Special Activity -21100

Recreation saw a 27% increase in revenue for the fiscal year ending June 2016.

Chairman Crowley would like to see footnotes describing any big expenses so the Commission can see the breakdown of a particular line item. For example, the purchase of the security cameras and windscreens for the tennis courts fell under the facilities and maintenance line item but without a footnote it is difficult to see exactly where the money was used. Chairman Crowley would also like to see a final report for each program per season so the Commission can clearly see the success of each program. Numbers for the summer programs are split between fiscal years making it difficult to see the end result for those programs.

The general fund month ending August 2016 is on target with regard to expenditures. The 21100 month ending August 2016 is down slightly with regard to revenue. Overall, Mr. Ward is very happy with Recreation's performance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Norcross to approve the budget report year ending June 2016. Motion seconded by Commissioner Theodore, all in favor, motion approved.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ciriello to approve the budget report month ending August 2016. Motion seconded by Commissioner Norcross, all in favor, motion approved.

IV. Recreation Administrator's Report

a. Summer program numbers

b. Fall and Winter programs ahead

The Summer Camp program is making a profit. There was a 17% increase in revenue for the program compared to last year. The Summer Camp program's total net for 2016 is $9,900.30.

Director Theodore commented that this summer there was a full two weeks extra of camp because there were no snow days during the school year. Ms. Theodore noted that there is sometimes funding for the program but she would like to work towards being self-sustainable. Commissioner Norcross informed the Commission about the snow day policy. If there are no more than 3 snow days, the date for the last day of school will not change.

Director Theodore thanks the staff and everyone involved with the summer programing for a great season. Recreation is looking into offering summer camp on a weekly basis. Right now it is offered for the whole summer at a flat rate. The middle school age camp was run on a weekly basis and had a good turnout.

There was a 33% return for the Sports Camps and Clinics held this summer. Programs were held on all different fields at different times during the summer. Mr. Ward assured Chairman Crowley that the fields can handle the increased use of the fields (356 participants in programs throughout the summer) due to the increase in programs being offered. Mr. Ward received many compliments on the conditions of the fields and the camps and programs that are offered.

Mr. Ward will provide a report on adult programs at the next meeting.

V. Chairman's Report

Chairman Crowley updated the Commission on the dog park. There is an issue with the permits for the fencing. It will be a while before it is up and running. Recreation will take over when Planning and Zoning resolves any issues.

A professional is being called to take a look at the cracks in the tennis courts to make recommendations for repair. The windscreens have been installed.

Chairman Crowley noted that the new practice field is beautiful and the ADA improvements at the rec. field are complete.

Mr. Ward noted that there were issues with ground bees this summer.

The school is looking to put in the wireless scoreboard. This is also on the list for Ad-hoc to review. Chairman Crowley also noted that gate latches were upgraded to commercial latches which are more durable. The last thing left to do with the bond money for the fields is to enlarge the parking lot, otherwise the work on the fields is complete.

VI. Facilities ad-hoc committee

Mr. Ward informed the Commission that an insurance company looked at all the playgrounds in town. There was only a small issue at Spellman Park. There needs to be a definite outline or boundary for the woodchips. The overall report was really good according to Mr. Ward.

Vice Chairman Prachniak was concerned about dead branches in the parks and asked if they are checked regularly. Mr. Ward stated he would contact Barbara McKrell and possibly an arborist to look into checking trees in the parks.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

The Commission welcomed Mr. Jeffery Moore as the newest member of the Recreation Commission.

IX. Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Theodore at 7:08 pm. Motion seconded by Commissioner Norcross, all in favor, motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

Note: Next month's meeting Monday, October 24, 20016.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Michael Crowley, Chairman